

**GOVERNESSES' BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.—COMPETITION.**—The names of the successful competitors for laying out the land for the Governesses' Benevolent Institution were briefly mentioned in an advertisement last week. We add some particulars. The first prize was 25 guineas, and was awarded to Mr. W. F. Poulton. The second prize was 15 guineas, and was awarded to Mr. W. L. Granville. The third prize was 10 guineas, and was awarded to Mr. J. T. Wood. The Board had professional assistance in making the selection. There were forty plans sent in which were contributed by seventeen architects. The prize plan is laid out as a square to be called Harrowby-square, adapted, mainly, for detached and semi-detached villa residences. The proposed buildings are of the same character as the Governesses' Asylum which adjoins the land in question. One end of the square is appropriated as a terrace to be called Ashley-terrace, in the Elizabethan style. The centre is appropriated as plantation and pleasure grounds.

**THE LONDON PEEL-MEMORIAL.**—The City Committee on this memorial met on 23rd inst., to view, if not to decide on, "the 2-foot model" of the "10-foot statue" in bronze, which have been presented, in response to the invitation of the committee to thirteen selected British artists to compete for the design of the intended memorial. The question of site came also under consideration, those proposed being the western end of Cheapside; the middle of Mansion-house-street between King William-street and Princes-street, and close to the Duke of Wellington's equestrian statue; and also the eastern end of the Royal Exchange. The decision on both points has been postponed till next Monday, and we trust the committee will be well advised. An artist may make a very good statuette, and he totally incompetent to produce this statue for the city.

**"LUNNEN LIGHTS."**—I be a sort of a builder from Wiltshire, and be come up to see London in all its glory, and the Glass Palace, and the Queen, and Prince Albert, and hope to get a little experience by close observation and some hard work. I can't say your Trafalgar-square quite comes up to my mark: there's your lamps at the corners,—why those stone posts they squat on would make capital pedestals for those brave fellows, Collingwood, Harvey, and others; and you might put better lights, in better lamps, and in better places. If you want light from lamps, place them just above the danger of umbrellas, and no higher. Then look at your new-fronted palace. Mr. Architect never made these towers at main entrance to fry fish with bunches of glass lamps, looking for all the world more like a theatre than a palace gateway. My German friend was right when he said "You don't put your street lamps enough down to the ground:" light is light, and useful ornament is quite another thing. One word or so more. I saw somewhere in my travels a company of fine stone damsels, 20 feet high at least, handsome as you could imagine. They sat round such a square as Trafalgar: every one had loads of different things about them: and, if I rightly remember, I was told they represented the important cities of the country and their productions. They wouldn't look amiss in your square, especially when you get the lions to keep them company. By the bye, why don't they show a pattern of them lions up at Crystal Palace, so that a body might see what is called a British lion reposing after his toils, before one goes back to the clodhopping town of Devises?—AN ENGLISHMAN.

**HINTS TO BUILDERS.**—A correspondent of the *Sheffield Times* comments on the houses which are being erected in his locality. He says,—“What convenience do they offer! The rooms are small and badly arranged: few have gas apparatus: fewer have water-pipes to each lodging-room; and where there is a water-closet it is invariably small, and so placed as to be inconvenient and offensive. In the fancy houses the bedrooms are low—in some instances not more than 8 or 8½ feet in height, and without sufficient ventilation. Closets and store-rooms seem, in the opinion of builders

and architects, to be useless; and if a house should by any unforeseen accident contain a couple of closets, this is an inducement for additional rent. In no art or science is there so little improved invention as in that of house-building. Every builder is satisfied if he offer sitting-rooms five yards by four, while a bedroom of that mighty area is deemed a non-such. Some think that three bed-rooms are enough for a family, while others will stretch their genius to the admission of four, and an attic for the servant,—this attic being as ill calculated for a sleeping-room as a dog-kennel. Speak of a room seven yards by six, of a passage six feet wide, of a decent bed-room for a servant, and the builder or architect concludes you are gone mad, or wonders where you came from. I need not take you to the kitchens—they are always small and inconvenient, while an out-kitchen or scullery is a stretch of imagination rarely met with.” These remarks apply beyond Sheffield.

**SCULPTURED STONES IN THE NORTH.**—Some time ago Mr. Chalmers, of Aldbar, obtained drawings of all the sculptured stone obelisks in Angus, and got them lithographed for the members of the Bannatyne Club. The work has excited attention. In Aberdeenshire there is a considerable number of these obelisks, which are much less elaborate than those in Angus. It is singular that no monument of this class has been found south of the Forth. The Spalding Club proposes to obtain drawings of all the stones in the north of Scotland. Circulars have been sent to the clergy of about 240 parishes in the north, asking for information as to the locality of any sculptured stones in their districts, but as yet answers have been obtained from only about 150. It is probable that where no return has been made there is no stone of the description alluded to.—*Elgin Courier*.

**THE IRON TRADE.**—In this trade complaints are made of a remarkable cessation of orders among the merchants and wholesale dealers, while the demands of home manufacturers are also said to show a considerable falling-off. This torpor is in some quarters referred to re-action ensuing upon the late stimulus of preparation for the Great Exhibition,—and its temporary continuance, it is said, will depend upon how long that object may, as at present, engross unlimited attention; but to others it appears of a more serious character, the result of a current opinion that the close of the quarter will usher in a declared reduction in prices, accompanied by an effort to effect a general lowering of wages, without which it is asserted that the competition of other producing districts cannot be met. A new and alarming feature presents itself in the recent stoppage of extensive houses in Liverpool, and one, though inconsiderable, in our own district, by which several Staffordshire firms will be sufferers. Men of capital have begun to withdraw from the contest, and their places are being supplied by those who have little to lose, and, under our present bankruptcy code, little to fear. Hence apprehensions are entertained that the misfortunes already declared are but the prelude to a severe crisis and a fearful impending series of disasters.—*Birmingham Gazette*.

**CARDIFF ATHENÆUM, EISTEDDFOD.**—Another Eisteddfod—with another catastrophe to begin with! Fortunately, the present casualty does not appear to have been a very fatal one. It consisted simply of the demolition, by a stiff gale, of the marquee in which 1,500 persons were to have been accommodated. The reading-room of the Athenæum, capable of seating 500, was substituted for the marquee in Cathay's Park. Various works of art were exhibited. Amongst the various prizes, one of 54, and silver medal for the best piece of sculpture, or carving in wood or stone, were not awarded, although there were two competitors. A medal was awarded to Mr. Joseph Edwards, formerly of Merthyr Tydfil, and now of Robert-street, Hampstead-road, for plaster casts taken from sculpture, though the committee had offered no prize for casts. From the description of these, we conceive that they were models for sculpture rather than casts from it.

**BATTY'S HIPPODROME.**—Our country friends may pass an agreeable hour, and in the cool, at this now favoured resort, with its many wonders, its classic lady-charioteers, and bold equestrians. An apprenticeship under the "Professor of the Sticks" here, on the part of some of our more clever constructionists, might bring the hitherto utopian notion of "building castles in the air" within the bounds of possibility.

**FALL OF A BUILDING.**—On Saturday week, an old building, situated at 8, Lambeth-street, Great Alie-street, White-chapel, fell to the ground, burying several persons in the ruins, whereby two lost their lives and others were seriously injured. It appears that several houses in Lambeth-street, built upwards of 100 years, had been condemned by the district surveyor, and accordingly means were adopted to take down No. 8, and the two adjoining houses. While the men were proceeding with the demolition a loud crashing noise was heard, and the next moment the whole building fell to the ground, carrying with it the several floors.

**HEREFORD ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY.**—A first excursion for the season, by the members of this Society, took place on Monday week. The party visited the castle of Skenfrith, on the boundary between Herefordshire and Monmouthshire, and the ancient church of the village; and they then proceeded to the ruins of another stronghold of former days, that of White Castle, a manuscript history of which, by Mrs. Taddy, was read by Mr. R. Johnson, one of the Vice-presidents. From White Castle the tourists went along the base of the lofty Graig to Grosmont, the castle of which they also visited. The attention of the party was next directed to the deserted market-house of Grosmont, by the ancient money changers' table, a large block of stone with a rim carved in the perpendicular style, and supported by a rude pedestal. From Grosmont the members returned by way of Pontrilas to Hereford.

**IRON PLATES FOR PLATE GLASS.**—A cast-iron plate for plate glass is being made by Messrs. Hawks, Crawshaw and Sons, which will have a planed surface 18 feet 4 inches long by 10 feet 10 inches wide, and will weigh twenty-five tons. This will be, we believe, the largest cast-iron plate ever made for a plate glass casting-table. Both plates will be planed perfectly smooth on the surface, in a large planing machine.

**THE VANDRUGH CLUB,** of architect-actors, gave a representation on the 25th, when the pieces selected were, "Love in a Maze," and "His First Champagne."

**BOULOGNE.**—The dome of the new cathedral has been struck by lightning, which passed into an adjoining house, and killed an infant in its cradle.

**INTIMIDATING WORKMEN.**—At Birmingham, last week, a glass-blower was convicted of using threatening language to intimidate a workman from continuing in his employment, and sentenced to two months' imprisonment in the House of Correction with hard labour. Other cases were adjourned till an appeal was heard against the decision.

#### TENDERS

For the Building of the Industrial Schools at Finsbury.		
Mr. Andrew Wilson, architect.		
Sheffield	£11,867	
Holmes	10,614	
West	9,889	
Hall	9,462	
Emor	8,530	
Curtis	8,412	
W. Hall (accepted)	8,201	

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"T. O., Jun." (direct to the Hon. Secs. J. B. J., 14 Grosvenor-street), "J. S. B." (thanks), "W. E. B." (we have not received the book), "B. B." "T. W." (your paper did not reach us), "Mr. S." "R. T. J." "W. N." "J. J." "H. M." (next week), "J. P. H." "E. W. L. C." "E. W. S." "W. C." "P. R." "P." "Five Years' Subscriber," "G. W." "Model Farms" (will be looked to).

**Errata.**—In our last number several literal inaccuracies were allowed to stand, through accident; the right sense, however, will be obvious to most of our readers.

**Books and Addresses.**—We have not time to point out books or find addresses.

**NOTICE.**—All communications respecting advertising matter should be addressed to the "Publisher," and not to the "Editor." All other communications should be addressed to the Editor, and not to the Publisher.